

# INFORMATION REPORT

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(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

- De Zadro: They will become stateless and leave the Territory.

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HR 702

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

Vesel: But you realize that this is absurd; it means that a person born in Trieste or the immediate vicinity, who owns a home and property here, can be expelled from his native land.

De Zadro: I do not know what to reply.

Vesel: You know that I am a great friend of the Italians and my friendship for them was demonstrated in 1943 when, for having defended Italians in Umago, I was nearly killed. The same thing happened when I defended Italians in Postumia in 1946. Therefore, I beg you to inform your superiors that nothing could be worse for the Italian cause in Trieste than the action they now are taking. If the Italian Government and Italian authorities persist in this discrimination against Slovene citizens of the Free Territory of Trieste, we are ready once again to fill the prisons and fight to the utmost against them. Furthermore, those persons who are the proponents of these racial laws will be denounced for treason once the Free Territory is fully constituted.

De Zadro: I do not wish to enter into a political discussion but I repeat once again that those are orders from Rome and Rome's local representatives.

5. Following this conversation, some 12 Slovene and Croat lawyers met at the Dreher Brewery and formed a committee to examine the individual cases of Slovenes who have been denied citizenship, in order to bring the cases to the attention of the Allied authorities. During the course of the meeting, a statement was made to the effect that proof had been obtained that the Italians currently are requesting citizens who were abroad in 1940 to produce documents proving they never requested citizenship of another state. Once established in this category, they are being prosecuted for not having reported for Italian military service in 1941 and 1942.

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